

Salem County Office of Archives

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TIME LINE III 1800 to 1899 Salem County, New Jersey

Please refer to original documents for confirmation.

Nineteenth Century Salem County, as part of America's New Republic, is finally recovering from the depression that followed the Revolution. Farming is beginning to become profitable again and with the County's rich soil the future looks good.

The Penn's Neck Canal Co. is chartered although it will be another 70 + years before it is actually constructed.

A Free Black community settles at Claysville on the north side of Fenwick's Creek in Mannington.

Early 1800's Baptists in Salem and Cohansey join to form the First Canton Baptist Church. The Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. is organized, but does not receive it's charter from Philadelphia until 1816, and the first church is built in Elsinboro. The First Baptist Church in Woodstown was formed in 1811, built it's first church in 1815, and was constituted in 1822. The Alloway Baptist Church was given land by Benjamin and Ann Thompson in 1820 and built a small brick meeting in that year.

Early 1800s A regular scheduled ferry service is established between Craven's Ferry (Pennsville) and New Castle, DE.

- Salem Library is established. It is the 3rd oldest public library in N.J
- The County Freeholders move to initiate bridge construction in Woodstown over the mill pond and at Holmes Mill over the pond.
- 1806 The County "Poor House" (almshouse) is constructed after two years of discussion.
- In November the Freeholders authorize another bridge, Long Bank Bridge In Lower Alloways Creek.
- 1808 St. Georges old log church in Lower Penn's Neck is sold at public venue and a new brick church is constructed in 1811.

The County Freeholders approve repairs to the Salem Bridge and also to the planting of Lombardy Poplars along Market St. in front of the court house and Co. Clerk & Surrogates Offices.

On August 8th the County Freeholders authorize the construction of Hawk's Bridge.

Jacob Hufty of Salem Town is elected to U. S. Congress from the State of New Jersey March 4, 1809 and serves until his death May 20, 1814. Previously Hufty held many local offices including Freeholder, Sheriff and Judge of the Orphans Court.

Farmers in Salem Co. have begun to specialize and, in addition to crops for family use, they are growing produce for market.

The County Freeholders authorize the building of (the south end) Hook Road.

- In Salem Town New Street (now Griffith) is laid out and a bridge over the Salem River (leading to Penn's Neck) is authorized.
- War with England provides an increase in the need for County farm products.

An Oil (press) mill to process flaxseed is established in Pittsgrove Township.

A hotel (later to be Nelson House) opens on East Broadway in Salem Town. Champneys' Tavern is renamed Pole Tavern thanks to the Liberty Pole erected on the green out in front during the war. Other taverns are established around this time; the Old Red Tavern in Elmer and the Davis Tavern in Quinton are believed to be early 1800s.

- The County Freeholders authorize the construction of a bridge over the creek in Alloways Town.
 - St. John's Church in Salem City is rebuilt with the help of other denominations with the right granted for them to hold services there as well.
- The first issue of the "Salem Gazette" is printed.

On August 14th the Freeholders order an addition to be added to the court house and on April 16, 1817 approve further alterations for enlargement. It is assumed that the entrance was changed to face Market St. at this time.

The "Aetna" is the first steamboat to serve between Salem Town and New Castle, DE. Some historians disagree and say it was the "Congress" in 1819?

The County Freeholders announce that an agreement has been reached with Gloucester Co. for a bridge over Oldman's Creek.

- On March 6th Job Tyler's great ox (2,165 lbs.) was escorted to the wharf in Salem Town, accompanied by a brass band and townsfolk, to a special boat that ferried him to Philadelphia. He was exhibited to the public, because of his great size, before meeting his fate at the butchers.
- A second newspaper is established in Salem, the "Salem Messenger".
- A stagecoach line is established to run from Craven's Ferry to Philadelphia.

Col. Robert Gibbon Johnson in an effort to promote the introduction of tomatoes as a viable crop in Salem County announces he will eat a tomato (rumor was prevalent that they were poisonous) on the steps of the court house for the entertainment of one and all. He lived and the rest is history.

The Alloway Methodist Church is organized in 1819 but is incorporated on February 15th the following year and erects its first church.

- Josiah Reeve purchases both grist and saw mills in Alloways Town and begins to sell timber to the Philadelphia shipyards.
- 182_? Salem River Canal (? when)

Col. R.G. Johnson donates land to the Presbyterian Church on Grant St. for a cemetery and church.

On November 22nd the N.J. Legislature passed an act incorporating the "Salem Steam Mill and Banking Co.", capitalized at \$25,000 for the mill and \$50,000 for banking purposes, in Salem Town. This is the first bank.

September 4th "A large stick of lumber, drawn by thirteen horses, passed through this town (Salem) last week. We learn by Mr. Smith the timber merchant, that it is one of a number that is to form the keel of a One Hundred and Forty gun ship, that is to be soon laid in Philadelphia." Oak from Salem Co. was extremely vital to shipbuilding on the Delaware River.

Col. R.G. Johnson of Salem Town gives land on East Griffith St. (Grant St.) and the cornerstone is laid for 30 by 50 foot brick edifice for the First Presbyterian Church. In 1835 a 20' addition was added but the ever growing congregation would soon need a new building.

- The County Freeholders approve the establishment of a livestock market in Lower Alloways Creek.
- The first regular service by steamboat between Salem Town and Philadelphia is established with the "Lafayette", which was soon followed by the

"Albemarle", "Essex", "Salem", "Linnaeus", and the "Pioneer".

The Freeholders approve the use of public land by the Reliance Fire Co. to build a firehouse in Salem Town.

Josiah Reeve in Alloways Town enlarges his business with the addition of another grist mill and saw mill, as well as, the digging of a canal to give him better access to Alloways Creek for shipping.

With the recent discovery of marl in Salem Co. businesses are established to market this new resource for fertilizer or soil enrichment.

Post Offices are established in Allowaystown, Canton, Helm's Cove, Pedricktown, Pennsville (a new name replacing Craven's Ferry), Pittsgrove, and Sculltown.

Samuel Allen of (?) establishes an Iron Foundry.

- The First Methodist Church in Salem Town is on Margaret's Lane (later South St. and later still Walnut St.) in 1826 the former frame church became A parsonage and a new brick church was built. It was dedicated in 1838.
- On May 9th the County Freeholders instruct Joseph Nichols and David Scull to procure and place milestones at regular intervals along the King's Highway between Camden and Salem Town. By August 8th, ll milestones had been placed.
- The Salem County Agricultural Association was formed on May 16th, the first of it's kind in the county, and the first County Fair took place later that summer.
- On May 13th a proposal was made to the County Freeholders to build a new County Clerk and Surrogates Office "with safe fireproofs". It was not completed until 1833.

The Reeve Brothers in Allowaystown begin to build sloops and schooners and build a dam on their canal, completed in 1831, to allow them to flood the canal and launch their larger hulls downstream. Each launching is a festive event for the local community.

- 1830 County farmer Samuel Dare raises and fattens a hog that weighs 1,074 lbs., which dresses out to 954 lbs.
- The Freeholders direct the Bridge Committee to build a truss & covered bridge at the north end of Market St. in Salem Town over the Fenwick

Creek. This historic bridge remained in use until the early 20th Century.

Two important hostelries open during the early 30s in Salem County. A first class inn, The Sign of the General Wolfe, is established in Penn's Grove, and in Pedricktown Joel Haines operates a new tavern.

- A new Methodist Church in Pilesgrove Township became an issue among the parishioners concerning where it should be located. The matter was settled by the Methodist Quarterly Conference and the new building was constructed in Sharptown. It was not dedicated until 1845.
- Salem and Gloucester Counties settle and mark their boundary line.
- The Federal Government buys land at Finn's Point, on the Delaware River, to build a battery for the defense of Philadelphia. This is the beginning of U.S. Military defenses on this site that will continue into the next century.

A schism had developed within the Friends in Salem Town and the Orthodox group broke to form a new Meeting. From 1827-28 they met in the Friends school on Walnut St. and in 1837 they built a handsome brick meeting house on Broadway. This meeting died out in 1904. In Woodstown a group of Orthodox Friends built a wood frame meeting on Main Street in North Woodstown, this meeting also died out in 1904.

- On February 8th St. John's Episcopal Church in Salem City is dedicated. This is a new building in the Norman style by the renowned Philadelphia architect William Strickland. The cornerstone had been laid in 1836.
- 1840 The congregation of the Canton Baptist Church sells its current building and builds a new church.
- The County Freeholders grant permission to the Brigade Board to build an arsenal at the NE corner of the Salem fairgrounds.

On February 3rd the Aldine Methodist Church was formally organized. A small brick structure was built for services as part of the Salem Circuit. This church was replaced in 1868 with the present building.

A steamboat race between the "Clifton" and the "New Jersey" from Philadelphia to Salem Town becomes the talk of the river traffic. The "Clifton" wins by greatly endangering passengers and crew causing the steamboat company to advertise that there will be no more races.

Maryland slave-owners passing through Salem in search of runaway slaves

caused great consternation among the Quaker community which then became galvanized in support of the Underground Railroad.

On June 29th the Constitution of the State of New Jersey is amended and slavery is supposed to be abolished; however, much of South Jersey ignored the amendment by just not enforcing it. Salem County however, with its large Quaker and Free Black community became very successful in keeping freedom-seeking slaves from being caught.

The Pittsgrove Baptist Church separated from the mother Church at Cohansey and became a distinct Gospel Church. It is located near Daretown.

Richard Risley Carlisle, born in Salem in 1814, becomes the great showman and acrobat Professor Risley. He tours the U. S. and abroad and creates a tumbling routine that, to this day, is called the "Risley Act".

The First Baptist Church builds a brick edifice on Broadway in Salem Town which is dedicated on December 12th. It is the successor to the old Baptist Church at Mill Hollow and keeps the name "Ante-Paedobaptist Church".

After the disastrous fire of February 1, 1845 the almshouse is rebuilt and is habitable by late summer or early fall of 1846.

The townspeople of Salem, with permission from the First Baptist Church, subscribed funds for a town clock and bell to be installed in the steeple of the church. The town clock currently remains there.

The Rev. William O'Hara celebrates the first Catholic mass in Salem Town on St. Patrick's Day in the house of Matthew McBride. Newly arrived Irish had settled in and around Salem and for many years services were held in private homes by visiting priests. Later they met for services in Ward's Hall until purchasing land at Oak and Carpenter Streets. A church was Built and dedicated on July 4, 1852 and later, 1864, incorporated as St. Mary's Catholic Church, Salem.

An 1847 statute established the New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum in Trenton and counties and municipalities had to share the costs on a per patient basis.

- Nelson House, a new brick hotel, replaces an earlier wooden hotel on Fenwick St. (East Broadway) in Salem Town.
- John Rock, an educated and erudite Free Black gentleman, leads a petition for voting rights for Free Blacks in Salem and Gloucester counties which is not surprisingly denied. This ambitious young scholar will not let anything stop him and he pursues and completes his studies in dentistry. Rock then enrolls in the American Medical College in Philadelphia and completes

this degree sometime before the Civil War. John now seeks his third degree when he applies for law school and it is this degree that will ensure his fame.

The Salem County Agriculture and Horticultural Society is organized.

Judge William Clawson of Woodstown raised and fattened a hog that weighed 1,225 lbs.; which, he then sold to Joseph Davis. Mr. Davis created world-wide fame for the animal when he subsequently shipped it to London for exhibition.

French's Hotel built in the grove at Penn's Grove.

The N.J. Legislature had enacted a law granting rights to turnpike companies to construct and maintain roads and to charge for passage on these roads. The Salem and Woodstown Turnpike Co. was incorporated the following year; as were, a number of other companies in the Co.

The Second Baptist Church buys land on Fenwick St. (East Broadway) in Salem Town and builds a new brick church.

- The B.N. Smith Hotel opens in Salem Town on Fenwick St. (East Broadway)
- One of the best remembered steamships to enter the Salem Line was the "Major Reybold" which first sailed on May 24th. 197 feet long and 50 feet wide she was built in Wilmington by Harlan and Hollingsworth and cost Maj. Reybold \$50,000.

On March 2nd the infamous murderer Samuel Treadway was executed by hanging for the brutal shooting of his estranged wife Mary.

A new brick building is completed on Market St. in Salem Town for the offices of County Clerk and Surrogate.

On February 17th the boundary line dispute between Elsinborough and Salem is resolved by the Freeholders.

- The first Presbyterian Church builds an impressive Italianate style building on Market St. in Salem with a towering 165 ft. steeple.
- The Township of Salem on February 25th becomes Salem City.
- Due to overcrowding of the church on Walnut St. the Methodists buy on West Broadway in Salem City and build a new Church in the Lombard-Romanesque (Italianate) style. The Broadway United

Methodist Church is dedicated in 1859.

- Salem City elects Robert Carney Johnson as first mayor and he is reelected in 1863.
- On April 12th Civil War is declared and the citizens of Salem rally to the Union cause.

The Marlboro Seventh Day Baptist Church in Quinton is completed and dedicated in May.

Captain Edward A. Acton, Co. K, Fifth Regiment N.J. Volunteers, is killed in action at the Battle of Bullrun on August 29th. His father and two friends take a wagon to Virginia and retrieve his body in 1863.

On October 11th the Freeholders approve their first resolution for monies to be given to volunteers from the County and each volunteer in the 12th A.I. Regiment will receive \$30. By August 1863 the amount per soldier was increased to \$300.

Partnership formed for a new glassworks in Salem City by Hall, Pancoast, and Craven. The factory had a 4 pot furnace and made bottles.

The Salem Rail Road, which had received it's charter from the Free-holders in 1856, is finally in operation. The line was opened in sections; from Elmer to Yorketown, then to Alloway Junction, and finally to Claysville.

Cornelia Hancock becomes New Jersey's Florence Nightingale by going off to Gettysburg to serve as a nurse. Miss Hancock was honored by the U.S. Government for her services. After the war, remaining true to her Quaker belief in service to those in need, she traveled to Pleasant-ville, S.C. where she taught black children in the Laing School.

Men from Salem County fought in every battle in the Eastern Theater of the war, most served for the Union but some families had relatives who served in the Confederacy.

During the War Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River off of Finn's Point served as a prison camp. A cholera epidemic in 1863 killed over 2,000 of the 9,000 Confederate prisoners of war. Lacking burial space on the island, two acres of land was set aside at Finn's Point to serve as a cemetery for those who died. Later, in 1875, the Federal government made it a National Cemetery for the dead on both sides.

The Quinton Glassworks opened for business and continued for 46

Years. At it's peak it employed 150 staff. It specialized in plate glass and much of the glass for the 1876 Centennial Exposition buildings in Philadelphia came from the Quinton Glassworks.

The Freeholders adopted by motion a County Seal. The seal was to be round with a device of a man, a team of horses, and a plow.

Food processing in Salem Co. began during the Civil War which was a lucrative period for local farmers. By the end of the war one canning factory in Salem was processing 600,000 cans of tomatoes. Numerous small canning companies were in operation after the war but the major firms were Patterson & Jones, Fogg & Hires, and Watkins & Atkins.

Salem's John Rock, having graduated from Law School and passing the Bar in Massachusetts, becomes the first Black to be accredited to argue cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Around this time Salem City gains a number of hotels; Schaefer House, Sherrons Hotel, Green's Hotel and the Garwood House enlarge the community's hospitality services.

- The County Freeholders authorize a contract on May 9th to build a new jail and sheriff's house. The project is completed in 1867.
- The Freeholders give permission for the Memorial Baptist Church to temporarily hold services in the courthouse.
- An Act of the Legislature was passed authorizing the taxing of meadow and low lands along Salem Creek to defray the cost of building a canal. The first complete cut of one entire length of the canal was not finished until February 1872. Thus, after 72 years, the Penn's Neck Canal is finally realized.

A new industry opens in Salem City when the American Oil Cloth Company is founded. Years later it became a branch of the Congoleum Company.

A sensation of international importance occurs when on a farm in Mannington, just north of Salem City, workers digging marl discover the bones of a mastodon. The weight of the bones alone was 400 lbs. The skeleton was exhibited locally, then at fairs and other public places for 10 cents admission. The exhibition traveled as far as Baltimore, but the discovery was published all over the world. It was eventually purchased by the State of New Jersey and now resides on display at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

The West Jersey Agricultural Society was founded and with the earlier Agricultural and Horticultural Assoc. the two organizations operated the Salem County Fair. The Fair was held each year near Woodstown.

Immediately after the war, farming in Salem County exploded. With the beginning of mechanization, new methods for production introduced, and improved transportation Salem's farms entered a golden era. The Grange, the Farm Bureau, and marketing organizations all supported and benefited local farmers. Hiles & Hilliard a sizeable tomato canning factory opened in Salem City.

The Catholic Church in Woodstown began as a mission holding services in private homes and built it's first church shortly thereafter. The Church was given it's first resident pastor in 1890 and in 1895 purchased land at Broad and Elmer Streets. The old church was moved to this location and enlarged.

The Memorial Baptist Church in Salem City is created from the overflow of the First Baptist Church of Salem. The Church is organized in 1869 and admitted to the West Jew Jersey Baptist Association July 15, 1869. Land is acquired at Seventh and Broadway and a new church is constructed of brick in the Italianate Style by 1871.

The County Freeholders had approved the construction of a building for the insane, as an addition to the Poorhouse, and it was completed.

See attached list of businesses in Salem City from 1871 through 1873.

On May 10th at the Annual Meeting of the County Freeholders, for the first time, the vote to elect the next Director of the Board was tied. It took three rounds of voting before John Hampton was elected as the new Director. This would become a re-occurring problem that infrequently would happen again, and in some instances even bring Freeholder business to a halt.

About this time, the County erected signs near drawbridges to notify boat operators that it was illegal to proceed under sail through a drawbridge.

- Plans for a permanent gun emplacement at Finn's Point were made in 1870 and construction began in 1872. It would be 1878 before the battery boasted two eight inch guns.
- The County Freeholders decide to hold meetings in other parts of the County and the first such meeting is held on May 11th in Quinton.

Quinton Township is formed from Upper Alloways Creek Township.

The Gayner Glassworks is founded by John M. Gayner in Salem City.

Construction begins on the Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church on Yorke Street in Salem City and is completed in 1878. The land had been purchased for \$800.00 in 1871.

- The Federal Government sets aside land at Finn's Point for a National Cemetery, to include both Union and Confederates already buried here.
- Prize fights are moved from Philadelphia to Brandiff Beach in Pennsville and in the first event, after 94 rounds, John Kennan beats James Collins. A month later, at the second and last fight in Pennsville, a fighter named Weeden kills his opponent Walker after 75 bloody rounds.

On a happier note, the someday to become famous American artist, Everett Shinn is born and raised in Woodstown. In the history of art he will forever be known as one of "The Eight", the group of American artists who shocked the complacent art scene in this country in the early 20th century.

In January a disastrous fire devastates the heart of Salem City. With only hand-pumpers as equipment the firemen are at a distinct disadvantage; shortly thereafter on Feb. 18th the City purchased its first steam-pumper.

By this year there were 67 schoolhouses in Salem County.

The courthouse is in need of repair and the work is done. Permission is granted to any citizen of the County to use the space in front of the Courthouse in Salem for selling real estate or personal property.

Quinton Township is enlarged from part of Mannington Township.

- 1870s and 1880s John P. Bruna, well known in Salem for his ice cream, conducted Seashore excursions from Salem City to Cape May. These holiday outings, which included entire families, required extra cars on the train to transport all Bruna's happy customers to the seaside. These annual summer jaunts were remembered with nostalgia by Salem folk for decades after.
- Prior to this date and afterward for many years bridge tenders were appointed for all the county bridges.
- Oldmans Township is formed from Upper Penn's Neck Township

 George Hires, born in Elsinboro in 1835, becomes Salem County sheriff

1867-1869, elected to State Senate 1881-1884 and Republican to U.S. Congress 1885-1889. Hires is delegate to the State constitutional convention in 1894 and delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1896.

The First Baptist Church in Salem City incorporates and changes name from "Ante-Paedobaptist Church" it's name for 100+ years.

1882 Woodstown is incorporated, formed from Pilesgrove Township.

County Freeholders authorize erection of a horse fountain in front of the courthouse buildings if the city of Salem will provide the water hose.

After the deaths of his partners, sole proprietor J.V. Craven sells part interest in his glassworks to his brother Thomas J. Craven. The firm now has two factories with 350 staff and is renamed Craven Brothers.

The Philadelphia architect George Hewitt, having trained with the famous Frank Furness, designs a chapel which is built of stone next to St. Johns Episcopal Church on Market Street.

By this year the twelve townships of Salem County were Salem, Elsinboro, Lower Alloways Creek, Lower Penn's Neck, Mannington, Oldmans, Pilesgrove, Pittsgrove, Quinton, Upper Alloways Creek, Upper Penn's Neck, and Upper Pittsgrove.

A legal opinion given on April 11th determined that Freeholders are responsible for building and maintaining bridges, but townships are responsible for roads.

By this year seventy-one bank companies had been organized to maintain banks and drain meadows.

On July 31st a number of interested gentlemen of like mind met at the Salem Library Co. & founded the Salem County Historical Society. (It would not be until 1887 that women were admitted to this membership) There were 39 charter members and 4 honorary members. The first officers were elected on November 11th.

Alloway Township replaced Upper Alloways Creek Township

Jewish settlers who fled Russia under the Pogroms of the 1880s, part of the Alliance Colony who came to the U.S., found their way to Salem County. The Baron de Hirsch Fund purchased land along the rail line at Bradway Station (later renamed Norma) and offered 15 acre parcels

to each of 43 families who settled to farm there. The community made a success of their venture and built the first Synagogues in the County. The Scharis Isreal Synagogue of Alliance was the first built in 1885 and in 1888 the orthodox group built the Norma Congregation Brotherhood.

Salem City's first public telephone is installed in James Bassett's drugstore.

Yorktown resident Howard Sullivan murders Ella Watson (Aug.) and is executed on December 2nd. It is the last execution in Salem County.

By now the Penn's Neck Canal is a success and for farmers east of the canal shipping time is cut in half between Courses Landing and Philadelphia. Tons of produce passed through this canal for many years. Today, the canal is owned by the DuPont Company.

It was reported to the Freeholders that the bridges in Woodstown and Hancock's Bridge were both unsafe and needed replacement. After a study of the bridges both were replaced in 1886. The Upper Canal bridge was also repaired.

The John Tyler Library is built on West Broadway in Salem City by W. Graham Tyler in memory of his father. The Philadelphia architect George Hewitt, who also did the Chapel for St. John's, designs this building in the High Victorian Romanesque style.

A glassworks, the Window Light Co. in Elmer opened in this year and specialized in window glass. This was the first in a series of glasshouses to open and close in Elmer during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

George Hires is the last to be elected to the U.S. Congress from Salem.

The first electric company located in Salem Co. was the Electric Company of New Jersey, (date to be confirmed). Its purpose was to own and operate an electric system for Salem.

In Elmer, Brook's Shoe Factory is established.

Mrs. Hall appears before the Freeholders to request that the bridge tender on the Penn's Neck bridge be required to give up selling cider or any intoxicants. The Board approved her request.

On October 13th the SPCA was "granted permission to remove the old fountain in front of the county buildings ..." and to replace it with a stone watering trough at their own cost.

1887 The Freeholders voted against installing courthouse lightning rods and in July of 1887 the building was struck and had to have the roof repaired.

> The Freeholders from Gloucester County appeared at the February Meeting of the Salem Freeholders with a petition from the citizens of both counties for a permanent bridge tender on Oldman's Creek during the navigation season.

On December 14th the Salem County Historical Society asked the Freeholders to sell or donate a certain large stone to be used to mark the grave of John Fenwick, founder of the Salem Colony. The completion of this project did not occur until the 1920s.

The infamous "Blizzard of 88", which buried much of the east coast in mid-March, hit Salem County causing the County's worst train wreck. This occurred when 3 engines trying to clear snow collided; however, not a single person was killed or gravely injured.

1889 In this year began the dispute over Salem County's Napoleonic Era cannon, which was housed at the county arsenal at Pole Tavern. A senator from Cumberland Co. requested that General Perrine, U.S. Army Quartermaster, transfer the brass cannon to Bridgeton. The cannon was removed creating a furor throughout Salem Co. It took until 1913 to have the canon returned to Salem.

> The First Baptist Church of Pedricktown is organized and a church is constructed. The building is dedicated and the Church is incorporated in 1891. Unfortunately, a fire destroys this church in 1915 but it is rebuilt in the same year.

The first local telephone service, with a 10-line switchboard, was installed in John Mc Donald's Undertaker's in Salem City. At this time a telegraph office was also opened on Broadway.

The jail and sheriff's residence was lighted with electricity and a telephone was installed in either the clerk's or surrogate's office for use of the court.

By the late 1880s, The Romanoff Caviar canning factory owned by Harry Dalbow in Penn's Grove was so successful that he claimed Penn's Grove was the Caviar Capital of the World. Roe from the seemingly limitless supply of sturgeon in the Delaware was taken in such quantities that the sturgeon were almost wiped out.

Ground is given by the Quinton Glassworks to the newly organized Quinton Baptist Church. A Chapel Society is organized to raise the

1888

1890

1891 The E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company purchases its first parcel of land, a 200 acre farm at Carney's Point, and builds a small plant and laboratory. Shortly thereafter, at the request of the U.S. Navy, they begin to manufacture gun cotton for torpedoes, mines, and propellants. Salem City gets another hostelry, Ford's Hotel. 1892 The County Freeholders grant permission to bury persons on the grounds of the almshouse. The Elmer Times is founded by Samuel Preston Foster. 1893 The Elmer Borough is parted from Pittsgrove Township and Incorporated. 1894 Penn's Grove Borough is separated from Upper Penn's Neck Township. William Richman, aged 21, buys a little store in Sharptown and begins to make ice cream. His product is an instant success and in 1907 he builds his first ice cream plant nearby. 1895 Craven Brothers is renamed the Salem Glassworks. 1896 Sam Bassett builds his glassworks in Elmer making bottles. This venture lasted only a few years and he sold to the Novelty Glass Co. The firm struggled with legal problems and finally closed in 1909. The Spanish-American War is declared. In Salem County the du Pont plant in Carney's Point is expanded due to the increased needs of the military. Powder for rifles and canons was manufactured in large quantities. A garrison is established at Finn's Point and the battery is enlarged as part of the defenses for the Delaware River ports and shipyards. Rural Free Delivery Mail was established by the U.S. Post Office. 1897 The battery at Finn's Point is named Fort Mott to honor the Civil War N.J. Volunteers Commander Major General Gershom Mott. On December 12th Miss Annie Oakley and her Wild West Troop 1898 played at the Salem Opera House. 1899 Workmen installing the new steam heating system for the court

necessary funds and the new church is erected and dedicated in March.

house discovered a vault and human remains while digging a trench at the southwest corner of the building. ?

Roads and bridges are constant business at the Freeholders meetings during the 1890s and early 1900s.